

**NAME**

nl - number lines of files

**SYNOPSIS**

nl [*OPTION*]... [*FILE*]...

**DESCRIPTION**

Write each *FILE* to standard output, with line numbers added. With no *FILE*, or when *FILE* is -, read standard input.

Mandatory arguments to long options are mandatory for short options too.

- b, --body-numbering=STYLE**  
use *STYLE* for numbering body lines
- d, --section-delimiter=CC**  
use *CC* for separating logical pages
- f, --footer-numbering=STYLE**  
use *STYLE* for numbering footer lines
- h, --header-numbering=STYLE**  
use *STYLE* for numbering header lines
- i, --line-increment=NUMBER**  
line number increment at each line
- l, --join-blank-lines=NUMBER**  
group of *NUMBER* empty lines counted as one
- n, --number-format=FORMAT**  
insert line numbers according to *FORMAT*
- p, --no-renumber**  
do not reset line numbers at logical pages
- s, --number-separator=STRING**  
add *STRING* after (possible) line number
- v, --starting-line-number=NUMBER**  
first line number on each logical page
- w, --number-width=NUMBER**  
use *NUMBER* columns for line numbers
- help** display this help and exit
- version**  
output version information and exit

By default, selects **-v1 -i1 -l1 -sTAB -w6 -nrn -hn -bt -fn**. *CC* are two delimiter characters for separating logical pages, a missing second character implies *.*. Type *for* for *.* *STYLE* is one of:

- a number all lines
  - t number only nonempty lines
  - n number no lines
  - pBRE number only lines that contain a match for the basic regular expression, BRE
- FORMAT* is one of:
- ln left justified, no leading zeros
  - rn right justified, no leading zeros
  - rz right justified, leading zeros

**AUTHOR**

Written by Scott Bartram and David MacKenzie.

**REPORTING BUGS**

GNU coreutils online help: <<http://www.gnu.org/software/coreutils/>>

Report nl translation bugs to <<http://translationproject.org/team/>>

**COPYRIGHT**

Copyright 2014 Free Software Foundation, Inc. License GPLv3+: GNU GPL version 3 or later <<http://gnu.org/licenses/gpl.html>>.

This is free software: you are free to change and redistribute it. There is NO WARRANTY, to the extent permitted by law.

**SEE ALSO**

Full documentation at: <<http://www.gnu.org/software/coreutils/nl>>  
or available locally via: info (coreutils) nl invocation